

## PASTORAL TEAM

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*Lay Trustee*

Mr. John Hughes  
*Lay Trustee*

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# St. Philip the Apostle Parish

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ 07013  
www.stphilip.org ~ (973) 779-6200



## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024



### CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Saturday Evening ..... 5:30 PM  
Sunday.....8:00 AM, 10:00 AM (Broadcast) & 12:00 PM  
Monday thru Saturday..... 9:00 AM

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday .....4:30 PM

### HOLY HOUR

Every Friday .....9:30 to 10:30 AM

For a Communion visit and/or  
Anointing of the Sick,  
please contact the Parish office.



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus gives us a commandment in today's gospel, and it is not an easy one. We are to love one another as He has loved us. Now loving others in general is a noble and beautiful ideal. But loving particular people can be a challenge. When someone irritates us at work or at school or in our family, loving that person seems unreasonable. When someone ignores us or hurts us, loving that person can seem impossible. So, it is understandable that we try to wiggle out of Jesus' command. We say to ourselves, "That person is selfish or manipulative. That person does not deserve to be loved." But Jesus has anticipated our objection and shaped His command accordingly. He says, "Love one another as I have loved you." And how has Jesus loved us? He has loved us even though we at times are selfish and manipulative. He has loved us even though we do not deserve His love. So, Jesus gives us no room to escape from His command. We are to love others, even though they do not deserve to be loved.

So how do we pull off this seemingly impossible way of loving? Jesus shows us the way. In the gospel, before He gives us the command, He shows us how we can follow it. Before He tells us to give love, He tells us to take love. And the love that we are to take is Jesus' own. He says, "Remain in my love. Then my joy will be yours, and your joy will be complete." Jesus is telling us that we must first take His love in order to give love to others.

Now what does it mean to remain in Jesus' love? It means that we are to remember and to embrace all the ways that He has loved us. Jesus has loved us by giving us life, by giving us abilities, and by giving us family and friends. Jesus has loved us by walking with us on those difficult days when we struggle to hope. Jesus has loved us by giving us the wisdom to make good decisions and the strength to carry them out. In all these ways and more Jesus has loved us. And when we remember all those blessings, we remain in His love. Once we remain in His love, we are able to follow his command. Surrounded by the love that we have received from Him, we are able to love others, even though they may not deserve it.

So do not despair when Jesus asks you to love someone who has hurt you or someone who annoys

you. First surround yourself with His love. Draw strength from the love you have received from Him, and then try to love someone who is difficult. If we try to love based on our own love, we will often not succeed. But if we draw strength from His love, we may find that it is possible to accept the people who irritate us and to forgive those who have hurt us.

Peace,

*Fr. Monteleone*

## FROM DEACON SEBASTIAN

Dear Parishioners,

Wishing you are doing well; I address you with a heart full of gratitude and a spirit stirred by anticipation. As I prepare to take the final step toward the priesthood, I wanted to take the time to write to you before completing my pastoral assignment here at St. Philips.

Every moment shared, every Eucharist celebrated, every activity I have participated in, and every prayer we raised together have been cornerstones in my path of formation and commitment that started more concretely on May 20, 2023, the day of my diaconate ordination.

Now, just a few weeks before my priestly ordination, my heart experiences a mix of emotions. There is nervousness, yes, like what a groom might feel before his wedding, worried about the details of the Ordination, about those who will be present or absent, about logistics ... external things. However, beyond the distractions, there is a depth that overwhelms me with great joy: the awareness of being about to become a priest forever, or as the *Curé d'Ars* would say more beautifully, to "prostrate myself conscious of my nothingness and arise a priest forever", and then serve at the Table of the Eucharist, to preach the Word, celebrate the Sacraments, but ultimately to be aware of the task of winning souls for the Lord.

With a prostrate heart, I hear the promise of the Ordination Ritual resonating strongly: "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion". This strengthens me and gives me peace, knowing that, despite the fears and challenges of following the Lord, His presence accompanies me

precisely because He has promised us so: "I am with you always, until the end of the age".

I sincerely want to thank Fr. Monteleone, Fr. Nico, the deacons, staff, and each and every one of you for your support, your prayers, and your kindness during this time. You have been a true source of strength.. Although the future may take me to new responsibilities and challenges, I will always carry with me the memories and lessons learned in your community of faith. I commend myself to your prayers as I continue preparing myself for the Priestly Ordination, and I invite you to my Ordination this coming June 1st at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist at 10 AM. All of you are welcome!

With hope and love in Christ, who always calls us to follow and serve Him,

*Deacon Sebastian*

### ST. PHILIP PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Congratulations to our 8<sup>th</sup> Graders!

The Class of 2024 has been offered over \$220,000 in scholarships to various Catholic High Schools in the area.

Our students will be attending the following High Schools in the fall:

Clifton High School  
DePaul Catholic High School  
Immaculate Heart Academy  
Mary Help of Christians Academy  
Morris Catholic High School  
Mount Saint Mary Academy  
Mount St. Dominic Academy  
Paramus Catholic High School  
Passaic County Technical Institute  
Passaic County Technical Institute STEM Academy  
Seton Hall Preparatory School  
Wayne Valley High School

### SPIRITUAL OPPORTUNITIES



The Filipino American Group  
at Saint Philip the Apostle Parish  
invites you  
to a Prayer Gathering and talk on

### **Saint Joseph** *With a Father's Heart*

by Father Nico Quintos

on Friday, May 10, 2024, 7 PM

at Saint Philip the Apostle Parish  
(Marian Hall)

797 Valley Road, Clifton, NJ

\*\*\*\*Fellowship To Follow \*\*\*\*

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

#### **CARNIVAL**

St. Philips Carnival will be 3 days this year,

**Thursday, June 20, 6-10 PM**

**Friday, June 21, 6-11 PM**

**Saturday, June 23, 6:30-11 PM**

We are looking for new volunteers to join all of our veterans volunteers.

It's 3 days of fun, laughs, and excitement.

If you would like to Volunteer, please contact  
Maureen at (973) 773-5161

We will be having a volunteer meeting on May 6 at  
7 PM in Marian Hall.

#### **Soda/Water Donations**

Name brand soda and bottled water for the Soda &  
Water Booth can be left at the school kitchen door.

Looking forward to seeing you all again this year!



## SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES

### WIDOW AND WIDOWERS

The next meeting of the Widow and Widowers will be on Monday, May 13 at 2 PM in the Molloy Center. Anyone who is experiencing the loss of a loved one is most welcome.

### ROSARY SOCIETY

All are welcome to attend our special induction meeting on Monday, May 13 at 6:30 in Marian Hall. Pizza and cake following our Mass and Rosary. Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

### PRIMETIMERS

#### *Atlantic City Trip*

Prime Timers are going to Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Tuesday, May 21. Bus leaves from St. Philip Drive at 9:30 AM. Price is \$50.

For tickets, please call Sylvia at (973) 742-9286.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Our St. Philip's Knights of Columbus Council 11671 meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month from September through June, only the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month during July and August, at 7:30 PM in Marian Hall. Any Knight from any council may attend these meetings as they are open to all. Non-Knight guests may also attend however, guests require an invitation; simply tell any council Knight and he will inform the Grand Knight that you will be attending or call Mike Cervine (973) 472-7505 and he will put your name on the guest list.



### COLUMBIETTE BLANKET MINISTRY

The next meetings of the blanket ministry will be Thursday, May 16, 2024, at 9:45 AM in the Molloy Center. These will be the last meeting for this season.

For further information or donations, please call Cathie Murtha at (973) 471-1265.

Thank you for your continued support!

## COLUMBIETTES

St. Philip the Apostle Columbiettes are celebrating their Sixteenth Years being an auxiliary.

We are sponsoring our Mary Ellen Valentin International Dinner on Sunday, May 19, 2024.

Our theme this year is

Pentecost and all nationalities within the membership of the Columbiettes.



### **St. Philip Columbiettes Mary Ellen Valentin International Dinner**

**Sunday, May 19, 2024  
1:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Salad  
Buffet Entree  
Bread & Butter  
Dessert, Coffee, Tea  
Cold Beverage**

**Advance Ticket Purchase Required!**

**Tickets \$30 (age 10+)**

**\* Prizes \***

Call Barbara Ann 201-906-1372

Email: [barblissi@comcast.net](mailto:barblissi@comcast.net)

[columbiettes11671@gmail.com](mailto:columbiettes11671@gmail.com)

[columbiettes11671.wixsite.com/stphilipchurch](http://columbiettes11671.wixsite.com/stphilipchurch)



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## VACATION BIBLE FUN

Mark your calendars:

July 29 - August 2

8:30 AM to Noon



*Songs, skits, snacks, games, crafts, logo t-shirt*

Registration begins May 25<sup>th</sup>.

We invite Children in Kindergarten through Fifth grade.

Students want 30 Community Service Hours?

Sign up to be Junior Leaders.

Don't miss out on the fun!

## PARISH GIVING

|                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Sunday Collection: APRIL 30, 2023 | \$16,640.00  |
| Sunday Collection: APRIL 28, 2024 |              |
| Weekly Collection                 | \$ 11,177.00 |
| Online Giving Donation            | \$ 5,794.00  |
| Total                             | \$ 16,971.00 |

*THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY  
THIS EASTER!*

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| EASTER COLLECTION 2023       | \$45,066.00 |
| EASTER COLLECTION 2024 (YTD) | \$48,866.00 |

Upcoming Second Collections:  
May 12 - Project Faith

## WE PRAY FOR...

### *For the Recently Deceased...*

Jack McKenna, Joseph Scrozzo,  
Steven Slezak, Myron Holubec



### *A Time to be Healed...*

Bishop Arthur Serratelli, Joseph  
Gore, Sikora Sisters, Reverend John Klein, Philip  
Kutzenco, Sr. Pauline Piechocki, Tom Mullin,  
Khameryn Oliver



## MASS INTENTIONS

### SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

- 8:00 Beatrice Warchol  
Monica Shields  
10:00 Raymond Belli  
Domenic and Ella DeBenedetto  
June Bohny  
Joseph A. DiTrollo  
12:00 Robert Drozdowski  
Patricia Fox

### MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

- 9:00 John Anderson, Jr - 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary  
Hatti and Frank Roszkiewicz

### TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024

- 9:00 Andrew Davis  
Carol Saam - Special Intentions

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2024

- 9:00 Giuseppe Esposito  
AnnaMaria and Nicolo Pansini

### THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

- 9:00 Mary Hudak

### FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024

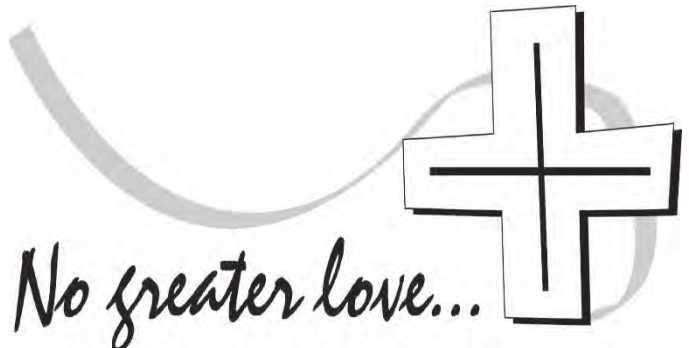
- 9:00 John K. Magullian

### SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024

- 9:00 Joseph Scafidi - 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
5:30 Frances Spazian  
John Szerencsits

### SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024

- 8:00 All the People of the Parish  
10:00 Maryann Spohn  
John Martin  
Catalina Visda  
Elaine and Jerry Cipolla  
12:00 Marlene Chidiac  
Marianna Scelfo



# < KID'S > KORNER

## Gospel Today

Sixth Sunday of Easter | John 15:9-17

Jesus says follow His command - LOVE EACH OTHER.

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"Love one another as I love you."

John 15: 12

Color the hearts and think of what you can do to show your love to others - family, friends, neighbors and classmates.



# Love

is the fruit of the vine.



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